

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/960,495

Examiner

David S. Blum

Applicant(s)

AMISHIRO ET AL.

Art Unit

2813

AM

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/25/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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This action is in response to the amendment filed 10/25/05.

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 1-22 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 is allowed for reasons of record set forth by the applicant in the remarks filed 10/25/05. In particular, the arguments toward new limitations of "said active regions and said resistor elements extend toward a same direction" and "resistor elements...not formed on said active regions".

Claims 2-3, 11, and 13 are allowed as being properly dependent upon allowed claim 1.

Claim 4 is allowed because none of the prior art of record, in combination with the other claimed features, fails to teach wherein said insulating film under said resistor elements is set to a predetermined width by said active regions, wherein said predetermined width is defined by an amount of shift in resistance value of said resistor elements, said amount of shift being defined by said predetermined width.

Claim 5 is allowed for reasons of record set forth by the applicant in the remarks filed 10/25/05. In particular, the arguments toward new limitations of "resistor elements formed on an element isolating insulating film" and "active regions and said element

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isolating insulating film are furnished with dummy gate electrodes constituting the same layer as that of said resistor elements”.

Claims 6-10, 12, and 21 are allowed as being properly dependent upon allowed claim 5.

Claim 14 is rejoined and allowed for the limitations of patterning the conductive film on the insulating film to form rectangular resistor elements extending between any two active regions (resistors on insulating film only, insulating film separating active regions) and the resistor elements parallel with the active regions. This limitation, in combination with the other limitations of claim 14 is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record. The method claim thus forms the device of allowed claim 1.

Claims 15-20 are allowed as being properly dependent upon allowed claim 14

Claim 22 is allowed for reasons of record set forth by the applicant in the remarks filed 10/25/05. In particular, the arguments toward resistors between portions of the active regions and on the element isolation insulating film, and the new limitation of “said active regions and said resistor elements extend toward a same direction”.

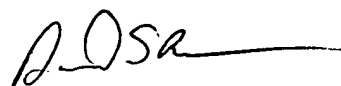
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David S. Blum whose telephone number is (571)-272-1687) and e-mail address is David.blum@USPTO.gov .

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead Jr., can be reached at (571)-272-1702. Our facsimile number all patent correspondence to be entered into an application is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



David S. Blum

November 29, 2005